

Message Text

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D/IWY:MMARCY (INFO)

USIS/IAA:LLISLE (INFO)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA NIACT IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652:

TAGS: PFOR, CG

SUBJECT: US PARTICIPATION IN KINSHASA WOMEN'S SYMPOSIUM

1. BY DIPLOMATIC NOTE OF APRIL 24 ZAIRE EMBASSY TRANSMITTED TO DEPARTMENT FOLLOWING INVITATION FROM GOZ: QTE A L'OCCASION DE LA CELEBRATION DE L'ANNEE INTERNATIONALE DE LA FEMME, LES FEMMES ZAIROISES REGROUPEES AU SEIN DU MOUVEMENT POPULAIRE DE LA REVOLUTION, SE FONT UN PLAISIR D'INVITER DEUX FEMMES QUE VOTRE GOUVERNEMENT DESIGNERA A LOISIR POUR PRENDRE PART AU SYMPOSIUM DES FEMMES OU'ELLES ORGANISENT A KINSHASA DU 17 AU 20 MAI 1975 STOP NOUS SERIONS HEUREUX DE CONNAITRE DANS UN BREF DELAI LES NOMS ET LES FONCTIONS DES DELEGUEES QUE VOTRE GOUVERNEMENT DESIGNERA POUR ASSISTER AU SYMPOSIUM DE KINSHASA STOP IL EST BIEN ENTENDU QUE LES BILLETS D'AVION ALLER-RETOUR SONT A CHARGE DE VOTRE GOUVERNEMENT STOP LES FRAIS DE SEJOUR SONT A CHARGE DU ZAIRE STOP UNQTE.
2. DEPARTMENTS INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR SECRETARIAT DETERMINED, AND SO INFORMED ZAIRE EMBASSY, THAT INVITATION REGRETFULLY COULD NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR SEVERAL REASONS:
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REGRETFULLY COULD NOT BE ACCEPTED ?OPRIATE REPRESENTATION

NO FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR TRAVEL; APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATION
COULD NOT BE SELECTED WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE OF SYMPOSIUM TOPICS;
GIVEN PRIOR COMMITMENTS ELSEWHERE.

3. IN MEETING WITH CUTLER AND STRAND MAY 14, AMBASSADOR
MBEKA EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING BUT DISAPPOINTMENT AT
DEPARTMENT'S REPLY. HE SAID SYMPOSIUM WOULD BE ATTENDED
BY MANY NATIONAL DELEGATIONS, INCLUDING CHINESE, BRITISH,
AND FRENCH, AND THAT IT WOULD BE UNFORTUNATE IF THERE
WAS NO ONE PRESENT TO EXPRESS U.S. VIEWS. CUTLER
SUGGESTED POSSIBILITY OF PARTICIPATION BY MEMBERS OF
AMERICAN COMMUNITY IN ZAIRE, AND MBEKA, WHO HAD BEEN
THINKING ALONG SAME LINES, UNDERTOOK TO CHECK IT OUT WITH
KINSHASA. HE INFORMED US MAY 15 THAT DEPT FON AFFAIRS
IS "EXAMINING THE POSSIBILITY".

4. IF GOZ AGREEABLE, AND IF YOU SEE NO OBJECTION, SUGGEST
YOU DESIGNATE ONE OR TWO MEMBERS OF LOCAL AMERICAN
COMMUNITY FOR PARTICIPATION IN SYMPOSIUM. USIA AND
CU/AF HAVE SUGGESTED THAT FULBRIGHT GRANTEE IDA ROUSSEAU
AT UNAZA LUBUMBASHI WOULD BE WELL EQUIPPED FOR TASK OF
THIS SORT GIVEN HER EXPERIENCE LECTURING ON WOMEN'S
AFFAIRS AND HER FRENCH-LANGUAGE CAPABILITY. ANOTHER
POSSIBILITY MIGHT BE U.S. FACULTY WIFE AT LUBUMBASHI
DOING PHD RESEARCH ON ZAIRIAN WOMEN (MRS. TURNER?). IN
CASE OF MS. ROUSSEAU, CU CAN AMEND GRANT TO COVER COST
OF AIR TRAVEL AND PER DIEM, AND CONSULATE LUBUMBASHI
IS AUTHORIZED TO ADVANCE MONEY USING FISCAL DATA FROM
HER ORIGINAL GRANT. CHOICE OF PARTICIPANTS, IF ANY,
HOWEVER, IS ENTIRELY UP TO EMBASSY.

5. WE WILL ADVISE AS SOON AS WE RECEIVE FURTHER WORD
FROM ZAIRE EMBASSY. YOU MAY WISH CONCURRENTLY TO SEEK
CLARIFICATION FROM DEPT FON AFFAIRS IN ORDER TO EXPEDITE
ARRANGEMENTS IF YOU AGREE THAT PARTICIPATION WOULD BE
DESIRABLE. KISSINGER

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